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BOOK REVIEWS.

THE LAW OF TAX TITLES IN VIRGINIA. By Raleigh C. Minor, M. A., B. L., Adjunct Professor of Law in the University of Virginia. Anderson Bros., University of Virginia. 1898.

This work is Prof. Minor's first venture into the field of legal literature. It is a small volume of less than two hundred pages, but the author has succeeded in compressing much valuable matter within this small compass.

The chapter-headings will give the reader a fair idea of the scope of the work: Introductory; Listing and Valuation; Levy; Collection by Distress on Action; Collection by Sale; Conduct and Incidents of Sale; Proceedings after Sale; Redemption; The Tax Deed; The Tax Deed as Evidence of Title; Interest Acquired by Purchaser; Remedies Touching Tax Titles.

The title of the volume indicates that its purpose is to deal only with the local law of Virginia. And while the author has thoroughly digested all the Virginia cases and statutes pertinent to his subject, he has not confined himself to Virginia authorities. Wherever a general principle is involved, he has sought for the truth wherever it might be found, and, in the absence of local authority, he cites abundant authority from the courts of other States.

The book has impressed us as a thoroughly philosophical treatment of a difficult subject, both in matter and method. Special attention is given to constitutional questions involved in the law of taxation. The chapter on the tax deed as evidence of title is especially thorough, and will be found of much practical value to lawyers when called upon to pass upon the validity of titles derived through a tax sale. The work shows throughout an excellent grasp of the subject, and a most commendable industry in the collection and digesting of authorities. Prof. Minor is to be congratulated upon the result of his maiden venture, and is entitled to the thanks of the bench and bar for placing before them, in so attractive a form, a compendium of the law of this perplexing subject.

The book contains a table of cases and an index. The latter exhibits the common fault of main titles with a large number of sub-heads, the latter arranged without attention to alphabetical order. For example, the title "Tax Deed" is followed by 118 sub-heads, without alphabetical arrangement, thus compelling the searcher to go over the whole 118. The printing, paper and binding are excellent.